

Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

FBIS-AFR-95-117 Monday 19 June 1995

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Burundi

Radio Reports Tanzanian Army on 'State of Alert'

EA1606155995 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in French 1100 GMT 16 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The Tanzanian prime minister announced yesterday that the Tanzanian Army has been placed in a state of alert, in order to counter any new incursions by Burundian Forces into its territory. The prime minister indicated to Parliament that Tanzanian defense and security forces had taken up their positions, and that he was preparing to send more troops.

Grenade Explodes in Bujumbura Market

EA1606162395 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in French 1100 GMT 16 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] A grenade just exploded at 1230, in Bujumbura's central marketplace, or to be precise, at the fishmongers' shops. After the explosion, people started throwing stones at one another. Right now, the market is deserted, and police are evacuating injured people. The number of casualties will be reported later.

National Security Council To Continue Meeting

EA1706153995 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in French 0430 GMT 17 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The National Security Council held an extraordinary meeting yesterday under the chairmanship of Mr. Sylvestre Ntibantunganya, the head of state. Here are the items on its agenda in an account of the meeting by Mr. Sylvestre Ntambutso, permanent secretary of the National Security Council:

[Begin Ntambutso recording] The National Security Council was to examine the report on the state of security in the country, a report drafted by the technical commission set up by the government. The report was presented by the chairman of the said commission.

The National Security Council then examined global measures to be taken quickly to restore and to safe-guard peace. It also examined the technical and legal mechanisms to be used for the implementation of the measures in the different areas of intervention.

Given the intricacy, importance, urgency, and seriousness of the situation, the National Security Council decided to continue its proceedings on 17 June. The concrete measures which will be taken at the end of the meeting will be made known to the nation by the president of the Republic himself. I thank you. [end recording]

Violence Resumes in Kamenge, Kinama

EA1706155095 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in English 1130 GMT 17 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Violence has again resumed in the northern suburbs of Kamenge and Kinama in the mayorship of Bujumbura. The attack of armed groups resumed a few days after the order-keeping forces had undertaken a vast operation aimed at tracking down the rebels.

Nearly 5,000 Blocked at Border With Tanzania

EA1706161195 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in English 1130 GMT 17 Jul 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In the province of Manageria nearly 5,000 Rwandan refugees are blocked since last Wednesday [14 June] on the Burundi-Tanzanian border. The refugees, [who] left the camp of Magano situated in the commune of Giteranyi, were not able to cross the Tanzanian border because of the hostility of the Tanzanian soldiers determined to drive back any flow of refugees on their territory.

Tanzania had closed its borders to refugees since last 1 April. The cause of the departure of those refugees are not well known. The pretext would be insufficiency of food and insecurity. Most of the Rwandan refugees had left late last month the camp of Majuri, situated in the province of Ngozi, to go to Tanzania, but they had been obliged to settle in the camp of Mugano, in the commune of Giteranyi.

Hutus Attack Coffee Convoys; Reasons Unclear

LD1706192395 Paris Radio France International in French 1830 GMT 17 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Hutu rebels in Burundi are attacking the coffee trade: Several convoys carrying the country's main source of wealth have already been attacked, and some people suspect the rebels of wanting to divert the precious cargo for their own benefit, in order to obtain weapons. For the moment, no one really knows anything for sure. Jean Helene has the details:

[Helene] In the last two months, there have been at least four attacks on vehicles belonging to what is called here the coffee network — in other words the whole system, private and government, which collects coffee from the peasants in the villages and then exports it.

The bloodiest of these attacks left four of the soldiers of the escort dead and three injured; in another the driver was killed and the truck set on fire.

But observers have noted that the interests of the peasants have not been attacked, in the sense that the

attackers have not touched either the coffee, or the money for the coffee, since the trucks have always been attacked empty.

Is it a coincidence, or is this a decision by the Hutu rebels who are suspected of laying the ambushes? Some people here favor the second version, explaining that the rebels are trying to smash the coffee network, a system that brings more profit to the middlemen and exporters, most of them Tutsis, than to the Hutu peasants.

More and more coffee is being smuggled to Rwanda, Tanzania, and Zaire. Who benefits? This remains to be seen, but the Hutu rebels might be tempted to take control of some of the coffee trade in order to obtain weapons.

Army Orders Citizens To Leave Districts

AB1706192895 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 17 Jun 95

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Once again, there's been violence in Kamenge, the northern suburb of Burundi's capital Bujumbura. It follows a recent Army operation in Kamenge to flush out Hutu militias. That led to a spate of ethnic reprisal clashes between Hutus and Tutsis in other parts of the city, and the Army swoop seems to have been in vain. On the line to Bujumbura a few minutes ago, Mary Harper asked our correspondent, William Moles, what had been happening in Kamenge?

[Begin recording] [Moles] Well, it's been very difficult to get information on how the fighting broke out again in Kamenge. What I do know is that there are houses on fire there right this moment, and that there's been very heavy shooting going on all afternoon. It appears that it started around 3 o'clock last night. One source said that, in fact, Tutsi militias lobbed a grenade into the Kamenge District, which is largely Hutu, and this may have sparked off the latest outbreak of violence but so far, there's been no military or official declaration on how it started.

[Harper] And what is happening with the residents of Kamenge?

[Moles] Well, I think most of the residents have fled out into the hills, and surrounding villages again. One source said that the military actually went in with loudspeakers at 2 o'clock this afternoon, and told the civilian residents to clear out, and that the military went in in full force at 0230. I have not been able to confirm this with the military yet. So, most of the population appear to have fled once again.

[Harper] So, does this suggest that the military has failed in its exercise to try to pacify these areas?

[Moles] Well, when Kamenge was supposedly flushed out 10 days ago, in fact, there was no control on people getting back in so the militias are certainly back in there—the Hutu militias—and I think in there with them is their leader, who calls himself Major Savimbi. So, there is certainly a presence of Hutu militias who got back in there, which does suggest that the military wasn't able to complete the operation. [end recording]

Hutu Military Leader Views Current Situation

LD1706203295 Paris Radio France International in French 1830 GMT 17 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Back to Burundi now with (Pascal Gashira Bake), who calls himself Major Savimbi, and whose troops are dug in in Kamenge in northern Bujumbura. The Hutu district of Kamenge was surrounded by the Burundi Armed Forces on 7 June. The Burundian soldiers left behind them several dozen civilian dead, and 48 hours afterwards the supporters of the major, rallied into the Forces for the Defense of Democracy [FDD], in other words the armed wing of the National Council for the Defense of Democracy [CNDD], returned to the Hutu district. Jean Helene, our special correspondent in Bujumbura, asked Major Savimbi why he had taken up arms:

[Begin recording] [Savimbi] We are fighting to protect the civilian population (?alone) against a mono-ethnic, Tutsi army, and also to protect the democratically elected institutions, and we are fighting to get the army reformed.

[Helene] What does a reform of the Burundian army mean for you?

[Savimbi] A reform of the Burundian army means the recruitment of Hutus into all the parts of the army, that's to say the command, that's to say officers and NCOs and privates. They must all be represented in it.

[Helene] In purely military terms, if you want to protect the Hutus in Bujumbura, it can be said that in the last year you have lost of ground, since there are no longer any Hutus in Nyakabiga or Buyenzi and so on. The only Hutu districts are Kamenge and Kinama. So really is this not something of a failure for you?

[Savimbi] It is not a failure, because the two districts house a lot of Hutus. It does not mean that the Hutus have perished; the Hutus are there. If you see the area of the two districts it amounts to three, or four, or five Tutsi districts. If you take Nyakabiga, Jabe, Bwiza, they will all fit into Kamenge, (?no problem).

[Helene] With which Burundi leader do you identify?

[Savimbi] You know [words indistinct], and there is also the FDD, and there is also the CNDD, which concerns itself with the politics and finance, the CNDD headed by Leonard Nyangoma — the CNDD is concerned solely with political and economic issues, in order to enable the FDD to work probably [sentence as heard].

[Helene] People talk about rivalries between the FDD and the other rebel groups, like the Palipehutu [Party for the Liberation of the Hutu People] or (Fromina). Are there also rivalries between rebel groups in Kamenge?

[Savimbi] No, no, there is no rivalry in Kamenge, or in the country. But when the FDD was created, we wanted the Hutu forces to be alone, we wanted them to group together so as to be able to fight better. So (?we want to) avoid the ideologies which tend to be too extreme, (?and) exclude the Tutsis. We think that we have to have a dialogue with the Tutsis. We must not wipe them out.

We are also asking the Tutsis not to exterminate the Hutus. No one will be able to do this, even if they wanted to. So we are against ideologies [words indistinct] exterminate our people.

I think that the Tutsis are afraid of being exterminated when they reform the army. The international community must reassure them that once it has been reformed they must not (?be afraid), they will not be exterminated. (?They need this) I think, because when you see what they are doing, they are really behaving like people who have lost hope.

[Helene] Are you now expecting another military operation against Kamenge and Kinama?

[Savimbi] I don't think it is over yet, but [words indistinct] the army has already realized that force will not get further, so there is need for a dialogue, negotiations. And I think (?it is time) for the army to negotiate with other Hutu forces, in other words the FDD, and see how to settle the problem. [end recording]

Sporadic Shooting Heard in Kamenge District

AB1806152395 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1215 GMT 18 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] In Burundi, sporadic shooting was heard this morning in the Hutu-dominated district of Kamenge in the north of the capital Bujumbura, after a relatively calm night. Extreme tension is still prevailing in this district, where renewed clashes forced several thousand Hutus out of the district yesterday. Anastassie Kengue has the details:

[Kengue] Observers' views on the motives of these renewed clashes are different. According to the official

version, government troops reacted when their positions were attacked in the night of 16 June by elements of armed Hutu groups established in Kamenge. For their part, some witnesses say the clashes started when Tutsi militiamen provoked their Hutu enemies. The Army reportedly intervened initially against Tutsi militiamen, and then against the Hutus. The clashes, which began at 0200, continued intermittently in the night despite appeals for calm made from trucks equipped with loudspeakers. The appeals also urged the residents to leave the district. No report on this renewed violence has been published yet.

Diplomats accredited to Bujumbura have established a link between the attack and a leaflet issued by the hard-line Tutsi Movement for the Defense of Minorities' Rights [Mouvement pour la Defense des Droits des Minorites], which accuses President Sylvestre Ntibantunganya of encouraging genocide against the Tutsis. The leaflet also demands that the Burundian head of state be tried for treason.

Army on Alert in Kamenge, Aid Convoy Attacked AB1806191295 London BBC World Service in English 1705 gmt 18 Jun 95

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Army in Burundi have been on alert today in the Hutu suburbs of the capital following Saturday's [17 June] resurgence of fighting in Kamenge. Ten days ago, its seemed as if the troubles in Kamenge and in Kinama, had ended after soldiers were ordered to intervene but this weekend's outbreak has triggered another exodus from the townships. On the line to Bujumbura, Mary Harper asked our reporter, William Moles, about the security situation in Kamenge:

[Begin recording] [Moles] Well, today, Kamenge has been totally sealed off by the military. There were few isolated shots this morning and late last night but I talked to a senior Army official, and he said that the Army was in control of the whole suburb by 7 o'clock yesterday evening.

[Harper] And is there anybody left inside the district?

[Moles] Well, the Army officer said that it was very unlikely that anyone was left in there. I did talk to some Hutu civilians who had fled the fighting earlier on that day, and they said that quite a number of civilians had been shot. They also said that one militiaman was killed in an exchange of fire, but the rest of the militias in there—they were apparently about 300 in number—had fled up into the hills with the civilian population.

[Harper] And how's the government or the Army explained exactly what it wants to do with Kamenge?

[Moles] Well, this seems to be the big problem. I think there is some kind of tension between the Army and the administration over what to do. After the last fighting, there was an Army operation to flush the militias out, but the militias trickled back in with the civilian population. The Army is very keen to make sure that this does not happen again but the administration is possibly resisting any kind of procedure to control inhabitants coming back in. It is very difficult to imagine how they would ascertain who is a militiaman and who is not.

[Harper] And I understand that there's been an incident elsewhere in Bujumbura today?

[Moles] Yes, on the other side of town, a convoy of aid vehicles from the International Action Against Hunger was ambushed and attacked with grenade and fire from a Kalashnikov.

[Harper] Is there any indication as to who might have carried out this attack?

[Moles] Well, the attack took place very near a place where a whole convoy of 26 World Food Program trucks was held up a week ago, and this was by angry members of the Tutsi population there. However, it's only speculation to say that this could have been Tutsi militias. It is very difficult to tell who is responsible for these attacks. [end recording]

President Announces Measures To Restore Peace

AB1906081095 Paris AFP in English 0753 GMT 19 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Bujumbura, June 19 (AFP) — Burundi President Sylvestre Ntibantunganya has announced a curfew and other emergency measures across his central African country in a bid to restore peace to the war-threatened nation.

The special measures, announced by Ntibantunganya on national radio and television Sunday [18 June] night, include a country- wide curfew from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. (1900 to 0300 GMT) and a ban on all public demonstrations except those organised by the government.

Burundi citizens will not be able to move around the country without a special pass, politicians will be restricted from speaking on television and radio and media censorship will be introduced under the measures, the president said.

Some districts of the capital Bujumbura have also been regrouped into new "sectors" to be administered by "a civilian commissar and a military commissar," according to the president's emergency measures.

The districts include the troubled north and northeastern suburbs of Bujumbura, where recent clashes between Hutu militias and the Tutsi-led Burundi army have ruptured a fragile peace in the volatile country and forced thousands of civilians to flee to the surrounding hills.

Ntibantunganya also announced a special session of the Burundi National Assembly, where the president's request to rule by decree will be examined.

Burundi is riven by an ethnic divide similar to that which exploded into civil war in neighbouring Rwanda last year leaving 500,000 dead.

Hutus represent the vast majority of the Burundi population — some 85 percent, against the Tutsis' 14 percent, but the Tutsis hold the levers of power in a shaky coalition government and in the security forces.

Somalia

Faction Leader: Aidid Gunmen Enslave Villagers

AB1506210695 Paris AFP in English 1603 GMT 14 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Mogadishu, June 14 (AFP) — Gunmen in Somalia are forcing villagers to work as slaves on banana plantations for more than 11 hours a day, a faction leader charged here Wednesday [14 June].

Militias loyal to General Mohamed Farah Aidid, strongman of south Mogadishu until he was deposed by dissidents last weekend, were collecting the villagers every morning and driving them to work, shooting those who tried to resist, said Colonel Abdi Warsame Issak, leader of the South Somali National Movement which supports Aidid's rival, north Mogadishu warlord Ali Mahdi Mohamed.

Issak, whose charges could not be confirmed, said the gunmen had created concentration camps in the lower Shabelle region to house the forced labourers during harvesting on the plantations operated by SomalFruit, which has Italian backing, and Sombana, a subsidiary of the US-based Dole corporation.

He said Aidid was using commissions from the companies to smuggle weapons into Somalia, ruled by warring clan factions since the overthrow of dictator Mohamed Siad Barre in January 1991.

The colonel appealed to European Union and Arab League countries to boycott bananas and water melons produced by the two companies.

Aidid Supporters Hold Rallies in Mogadishu

EA1606104795 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of the Great Somali People in Somali 1700 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Mr. Mohamed Farah Aidid, the president of the Somali Republic and chairman of the SNA [Somali National Alliance] and USC [United Somali Congress], today held a reception party at his house for a great number of people.

Rallies were held today in Mogadishu's public squares in support of the election of Mr. Mohamed Farah Aidid as Somalia's president, and of his vice presidents. Mogadishu is full of festivities today.

Aidid Addresses 'Huge Rally'

EA1606204395 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of the Great Somali People in Somali 1700 GMT 16 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Mohamed Farah Aidid, the president of the Somali Republic and chairman of the

Somali National Alliance, SNA, and of the United Somali Congress, USC, today attended a huge rally held in the 1st July Independence Square, Mogadishu, in support of the elections of the president and vice presidents. The rally was attended by tens of thousands of people drawn from the various sections of the society, who carried placards expressing joy at the elections. The rally was also attended by vice presidents [plural as heard] Abdirahman Ahmed Ali, alias Abdirahman Tur, Mohamed Haji Adan, Mohamed Nur Aliyow, and Mohamed Farah Hasharo. [passage omitted]

On the occasion, President Mohamed Farah Aidid thanked those who had made this victory possible. He stressed that the Somali people had realized their goal of achieving a broad-based national government. He thanked God for enabling them to form a government free from foreign interference. President Aidid said in his speech that, henceforth, colonialists would not be able to poke their noses into Somali affairs, now that we had a national government, the birth of which had been expected for a month.

He said the 15 political organizations had, by dint of sheer confidence, patriotism, and cooperation, succeeded in bringing the Somali people's aspirations to realization. He said it was now important to exploit the country's various natural resources, instead of relying on foreign aid. President Aidid spoke on the president's and vice presidents' broad range of responsibilities to the Somali people. [passage omitted]

He appealed to Somali nationals both at home and abroad to help the new government discharge its duties successfully.

The president said the Voice of the Somali People radio, which, he said, had performed a great role in the struggle of safeguarding the Somali people's dignity and freedom, would henceforth be called Radio Mogadishu, Voice of the Masses of the Somali Republic. [passage omitted]

Radio Reports Aidid Appoints Government EA1806204695

[Editorial Report] (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of the Great Somali People in Somali at 1700 GMT on 18 June reports that "Mohamed Farah Aidid, leader of the United Somali Congress-Somali National Alliance, has appointed a government. It said the ministers have been appointed to their posts as of 17 June, and their appointment has been approved by the country's Leadership Council."

Names of 'Cabinet' Released

EA1906111095 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of the Masses of the Somali Republic in Somali 1700 GMT 18 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The president of the Republic of Somalia, after seeing Article 18 of the transitional

charter and after approval by the council for leadership of the country, decided that the central Government of the Republic of Somalia should be formed as follows:

As from 17 June 1995, those listed below have been appointed to the cabinet: ; stylec;2>

Nation To Resume Talks With Iran on Oil Storage

MB1906114695 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Network in English 1100 GMT 19 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] South Africa and Iran are set to meet early next month in London for fresh talks on giving the National Iranian Company access to oil storage facilities at Saldanha Bay. The two countries have been in on-off negotiations for two years over Saldanha's crude oil storage capacity. The Middle East Economic Survey says Iran is interested only in two of six storage tanks, which each has a capacity of 7.5 million barrels. It says a continual presence of Iranian crude at the facility will enable South Africa to decrease further its large strategic stockpile.

Youth Day Events Celebrated Around Nation

MB1606173695 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1724 GMT 16 Jun 95

[Report by Paisley Dodds]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Johannesburg June 16 SAPA—Tens of thousands of South Africans commemorated Youth Day on Friday [16 June], some preaching reconciliation, others vowing to remember the scars of oppression and to work toward a strong Azania. The national holiday represented the Soweto uprising on June 16, 1976 when hundreds of students were shot to death. They were protesting the forced use of Afrikaans as a medium of instruction.

President Nelson Mandela, addressing 30,000 people in the KwaZulu/Natal township of Ladysmith, echoed appreciation for the heroes and heroines of June 16, and called on South Africa's present youth to build a strong democracy. "This generation of youth stands at the borderline between the past of oppression and repression and the future of prosperity, peace and harmony," Mr Mandela said. Trying to quell friction between the African National Congress and the Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP], he urged youth in the war-torn province to join hands and work for peace. "Without peace, it will be more difficult to create jobs; business will invest its funds elsewhere; tourists will not come to these beautiful environs that your province has," he said.

Obeying the sentiment, the ANC Youth League in the province on Friday called for its members to hand in weapons. Their IFP counterparts did not call for a weapon turnover, but retracted statements made in earlier weeks calling for violence, if Mr Mandela was not arrested for the March 28, 1994, killings dubbed the Shell House massacre.

Few white police officers showed up for the national holiday, but black police officers — promising they

were there to protect, — dropped their official duties and kicked up their heals for a music festival in Soweto's Mofolo Park. Busloads of toyi-toyiing African National Congress supporters armed with traditional weapons were off-loaded in the stadium, but relinquished their mood when their ears caught the sounds of reggae music.

Changing his tone from the activist who once popularised the chant "shoot the Boer, shoot the farmer," ANC MP Peter Mokaba told a Youth Day rally near Cape Town reconciliation was about forgiveness. "What will save South Africa is not the ability of President Nelson Mandela and people his age to forgive, it is the ability of the youth that will ensure a future for all South Africans."

In Soweto, 150 ANC supporters huddled together beside Hector Petersen's memorial in Orlando West in chilling temperatures. Hector was the first youth to die in the 1976 student revolt put down violently by the authorities. ANC veteran Walter Sisulu braved the cold to lay a wreath beside the memorial.

Deputy President Thabo Mbeki told a Youth Day rally in Pietersburg the youth had a heritage to be proud of. "The youth occupied the centre stage and became the cutting edge of the unstoppable march of the people toward a democratic South Africa," he said.

"Black power" was the message in Soweto's Pimville district, where the tombstone of Tsietsi Mashinini was unveiled. Tsietsi was one of the activists in the 1976 uprisings. He went in exile, dying in Liberia in 1990. Recalling her friendship with Tsietsi, estranged wife of Mr Nelson Mandela and former deputy minister of arts, science, culture and technology, Mrs Winnie Mandela, spoke at Tsietsi's service. Blasting 1976 as "one of the most vicious of the apartheid years," Mrs Mandela said the uprising symbolised the vulgarities of Verwoedian education that taught black students they were worthless. Many observers at the tombstone unveiling called for a return to black consciousness.

A victim of the 1976 shooting, wheelchair-bound Ms Poppy Buthelezi was thankful for the national holiday but said she would never forget the day's tragedy. "This day makes me angry in a way because if police had not shot at us we would not be here," she told SAPA.

Black consciousness poems vibrated the Pimville Hall that was hosted by ANC members as well as members of the Azanian People's Organisation and the Pan Africanist Congress. Rev Otto Mbangula, who delivered the ceremony at Avalon Cemetery where Tsietsi's tombstone was unveiled, said it was black people who

liberated themselves, not "the bloody hands of (Deputy President) FW de Klerk".

Despite Mr Mandela's call for nation building and Archbishop Desmond Tutu's speech about the "rainbow nation," few white faces, and few students' faces, dotted the national celebrations.

National Party youth leader Pierre-Jean Gerber said in a statement the African National Congress had "politicised" the day. The Conservative Party youth said the holiday was nothing more than a "violent Soweto day".

Despite political leaders' call for a non-violent youth, there was speculation that South Africa's youth had missed the message of 1976. Evidence of this was seen in violent crime statistics, gangs, robbery and school destruction. On Wednesday night alone, two people were killed and two were raped in an attack by armed youths near Umbumbulu on the KwaZulu/Natal South Coast. The youths gutted 18 shacks on a search for television and radio sets, police said.

"This day means very much to me but I don't think that students today understand its significance," Mr Khotso Seatlholo, an activist and colleague of Tsietsi, told SAPA.

Thandi Ndata, a student at Morris Isaacson High School, Tsietsi's former high school, said the day reminded her she had a purpose. "I will never forget the lives of my brothers and sisters who fought for my education and most of all my freedom," she told SAPA.

To mark the 1976 uprisings and the importance of Youth Day, the South African parliament this week ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Child.

Mandela Delivers Address in Ladysmith

MB1606155095 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1224 GMT 16 Jun 95

[Speech by President Nelson Mandela on Youth Day in Ladysmith on 16 June; issued on the SAPA PR Wire Service]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Master of ceremonies; ministers; leaders of the youth; comrades and friends.

Today, in various parts of the country, local communities - students, parents and teachers — have come together to clean schools. They are committing themselves to make teaching and learning a fulfilling and rewarding experience.

This is one of the central messages as we mark the second South Africa Youth Day under conditions of

democracy. Through these activities, we are driving home a central message:

That education is the most important asset that our youth should acquire;

That for the government to succeed in improving education, it must have the support of students, teachers and parents alike.

That is what the spirit of Masakhane [mutual construction] is all about. We can only succeed as a nation if we build one another and build our country together.

For its part, the government is taking the education system out of the crisis it has been in for years. We have abolished apartheid education departments. We have started phasing in free education. We have taken the first steps to improve conditions in technikons, training colleges and universities. Through the public works programme, we aim to impart skills to our youth.

We are doing all this because we know that, without education, our efforts to provide jobs, better health facilities, water, electricity and other needs, will not be sustained. The RDP [Reconstruction and Development Program] requires youth with skills.

But remember: At the end of the day, your progress will depend on how you apply yourselves to your work. The road to a better life demands hard work. It demands discipline, patience and responsibility. This generation of youth stands at the border-line between the past of oppression and repression, and the future of prosperity, peace and harmony.

On behalf of the government, I wish to say once more, that no one receives the attention of our government more than the youth. You are our future. In your hands is the key to make South Africa a great country; to make our society a prosperous and caring nation.

Dear comrades and friends; when we marked June 16 last year, there was understandable concern over the delay in declaring this day a public holiday. Today, we can proudly say that we have given a fitting tribute to our young heroes. June 16, South Africa Youth Day, is a paid public holiday.

We celebrate June 16, 1995 after our first freedom year, with new and bigger challenges facing the youth. You were in the forefront of the liberation struggle. Today you must be in the forefront of reconstruction and development.

Three days ago, our parliament ratified the United Nations convention on the rights of the child. The document bearing our nation's signature is being handed

over today at the United Nations headquarters in New York.

This UN convention gives us a standard to measure progress in fulfilling the rights of our children. Children were the beneficiaries of our very first steps to improve the living conditions of our people, through the school-feeding scheme and free health care.

The government recently brought an end to the detention of young people in prisons. The Constitutional Court outlawed corporal punishment of children. These were totally unacceptable practices, with no place in our society. But these measures have a wider meaning for the youth. And I want to address a special plea to all South Africa's youth:

Join hands and assist government in dealing with the scourge of crime and lawlessness. The success of the community safety plan depends on co-operation between the youth in particular and the police.

Resist the temptation to use drugs, and to be used by criminal syndicates in their drive to destabilise our society. Prove to the criminals and the lawless that they have no friends in our midst. This applies even more in our efforts to deal with the scourge of violence.

We meet here in Ezakheni, one of the areas that have experienced political violence in the past. The message I bring you is a message of peace. Throughout South Africa, the nation is busy improving its lot in conditions of peace. I call on the youth of KwaZulu/Natal: Don't allow yourselves to be left behind. Join your brothers and sisters in the rest of the country in bringing about peace.

Without peace, you cannot have proper education. Without peace, it will be more and more difficult to create jobs; business will invest its funds elsewhere; tourists will not come to these beautiful environs that your province has.

KwaZulu/Natal's youth should join hands to promote free political activity; to foster political tolerance; to condemn and remove no-go areas. The future of KwaZulu/Natal is in your hands. Build it today!

I wish to assure you that I remain firm in my commitment to stop violence and save lives. Those involved in violence, irrespective of parties from which they claim to come, must know they will face the full might of the law. Killers will not have any mercy, no matter what positions they occupy. Nothing will be allowed to stand in the way of this objective; because peace and prosperity are what the people of this province want. This is what you deserve.

The cause of peace will be served also if leaders ensure that they do not make statements which incite their followers to violence. At our recent cabinet meeting, finance minister, Chris Liebenberg appealed to all of us to ensure that we do not make remarks which have the effect of frightening away investors. The ANC and I accept this without hesitation.

And I call on ANC and IFP members in KwaZulu/Natal to rise and fight for peace. We have it in our power to stop this tragedy, which goes against the spirit of our great heroes: Shaka, Cetshwayo, Dingane and others. The killing of Zulu by Zulu must stop; the killing of South African by South African must stop. Violence must end.

The task of improving people's lives is even more challenging in the rural areas. Here, apartheid left communities in conditions that defy description. That is why the RDP puts such emphasis on rural communities. And, above all, we want to ensure that the rural communities themselves determine their needs and priorities.

Traditional leaders have an important role to play in this effort. And we appreciate very much the statements of king Zwelithini about the need for peace, rural development and investments.

We call on all traditional leaders in KwaZulu/Natal to join with us in these efforts. We appeal to them to take active part in the rural development projects being introduced. The government is determined to improve the conditions of traditional leaders. Though this may take some years to achieve, we want to make sure that they lead a lifestyle which respectable leaders of their stature deserve. We want to ensure that they can play their role as community leaders without political interference.

Comrades:

The youth, as the future of our country, have an important part to play in shaping our new democratic constitution. We are all impressed by the submissions you made in the public hearings of the Constitutional Assembly held recently at the World Trade Centre.

We are also following with keen interest the debate on the draft bill on the youth commission which we announced last year. And we will ensure that this process is speeded up.

This will create better conditions for the youth to be a full part of reconstruction and development. It will ensure that the youth, from whatever walk of life, background and race, embrace the growing national consensus and serve the interests of South Africa. I am confident that South Africa's youth is more than ready to meet the challenge of freedom. Wherever you are — in the schools, in religious institutions, at work, in the army and police services, in sporting bodies, as cultural workers...Be assured that we love you all and you shall always remain in our hearts. We are firm in our conviction that you deserve a better future.

Together let us build that bright future. Masakhane!

Mbeki Speaks at Pietersburg Rally

MB1606135395 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1339 GMT 16 Jun 95

[Report by Dirk Nel]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pietersburg June 16 SAPA — The whole country on Friday shared with its youth a sense of fulfillment and a sense of a nation being born, Deputy President Thabo Mbeki told a Youth Day rally in Pietersburg.

Recalling the events of June 16 1976, the date of a schools uprising in Soweto, he paid tribute to those "who imposed so great an influence at so many levels of the anti-apartheid struggle". "The youth occupied the centre stage and became the cutting edge of the unstoppable march of the people toward a democratic South Africa," he said.

Mr Mbeki said South Africans voted on April 27 last year for the country of their dreams, free of racial or gender discrimination. They voted for jobs, for houses and for a healthy environment; in short, for a better life. "Our celebrations on June 16 should therefore be seen in the overall context of reconstruction and development, with the objective of affording all our people a better life. On this particular day the youth of our country should define for itself a place and role in the struggle to broaden and consolidate our political democracy."

Mr Mbeki appealed for a greater understanding of the diversity of South African society. This diversity should be harmonised with the need to promote reconciliation, to build provincial and national unity, and to maintain stability and peace. He called for a programme of reforms and democratisation at education institutions. "The youth must be given the freedom and be empowered to expand their share of political, constitutional, cultural, educational, technological, social and economic rights," he added.

The government welcomed and encouraged individual and organised youth involvement in social projects designed to combat crime, drug abuse and the spread of aids. "On the part of the government, we commit ourselves to facilitate the establishment of the national youth commission. We also commit ourselves to the

establishment of an advisory and coordinating structure in the Office of the President on youth matters as soon as possible."

COSATU To Proceed With Half-Day Labor Strike

Expected To Be 'Biggest in Years'

MB1706143895 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1129 GMT 17 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Johannesburg June 17 SAPA

— A half-day strike, meant to push employers into a
new mindset on the draft Labour Relations Bill, would
continue as planned on Monday, the Congress of South
African Trade Unions (COSATU) said on Saturday [17
June].

COSATU announced labour had reached a deadlock with employers over the bill. The parties could not agree on centralized bargaining, the right to strike without dismissal and organisational rights.

Monday's mass action, said COSATU's General Secretary Mr Sam Shilowa, was meant to show employers that "apartheid legislation" had to be re-written for democracy in the workplace.

"We are not naive, we know that behind employers' motives are profits at all costs," he said at a press briefing in Johannesburg.

The half-day strike was expected to be the biggest in years.

In Gauteng, workers were scheduled to assemble in the Library Gardens in Johannesburg to begin their march and hand over a memorandum.

The major march would happen in Cape Town where workers would assemble at 10AM on the Grand Parade and march via Parliament between 10 AM and noon.

Workers would also march to the Union Buildings in Pretoria.

In KwaZulu/Natal, union members would march in Durban, Pietermaritzburg and Ladysmith.

COSATU's Sam Shilowa on Labor Demands

MB1906090295 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Network in English 0510 GMT 19 Jun 95

[From the "AM Live" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] [Announcer John Matham] Trade union federations today press ahead with mass action. The Congress of South African Trade Unions, COSATU, is the prime mover behind the campaign, but it has the support of both the National Council of Trade

Unions, Nactu, and Fedsal [Federation of Salaried Staff Association], the white collar union. Protest marches and demonstrations have been planned for today in major city centers throughout the country as part of a half-day stayaway. Labor is demanding that business give way to labor demands on the draft labor relations bill. On the line now we have COSATU Secretary General Sam Shilowa. Good morning, Mr. Shilowa. Will this just be a half-day stayaway or inevitably is it going to take all day?

[Shilowa] Good morning. Today is not a stayaway. It's a day in which workers are going to be engaged in marches and demonstrations. Stayaway means people stay at home. But first of all...

[Matham interrupting] But they will not be at work today?

[Shilowa] They will not be at work from 12 o'clock [1000 GMT]. Obviously there are some who may not necessarily go to work, but our call has been that workers go to work, and that from 12 o'clock we all assemble and march. But I think various times have been set in different regions taking into account the various conditions that are there.

Now in relation to today, the first thing I want to say is to call on workers who will be participating in the demonstration to ensure that it's peaceful; and secondly, to call on business that they should abandon their threats of dismissals, but having said so, to say that in our view the key issue today is not so much that we are saying that mass action itself is a principle. We are saying that it's a tactic which we are going to use in order to help unlock the deadlock which exists in the talks, and that hopefully business will be able to move away from the sort of bellicose statement issued last week and to rather table proposals which are not a caricature of labor's positions, but help resolve the problem and the situation through negotiation.

[Matham] Mr. Shilowa, business seems to be taking the attitude of no work, no pay for any workers who leave work at 12 o'clock today or don't pitch up at all. Are you going to take action against companies who follow that policy?

[Shilowa] No, we are not going to take action against those who follow that action. It is those who actually say that they support the bill that says that workers must have the right to peaceful protest, and yet say they will take disciplinary action against workers who do precisely that which they say they support in the bill; that, therefore, in our view the key issue is that business pays lip service in order to gain moral high ground with the public, but in actual fact their action, their deeds, and

the proposal that they have put on the table go against the spirit of the bill, and let alone the positions that labor is putting forward.

[Matham] We are going to be discussing those positions later in the program, so I would like to concentrate on the specifics around the strike. Today is meant to be the culmination of the first phase of mass action. If you don't get what you demand, what's next?

[Shilowa] I think the point that I made earlier on was that mass action should be seen within a particular context of, number one: mass mobilization of our own members behind our own position; secondly, to bring sense to... [pauses] in relation to them putting forward proposals which are capable of settlement. Obviously, after today there will be further negotiations; we are going to be watching what sort of positions is business going to advance. We are having a COSATU executive [meeting] tomorrow. There is also going to be a joint executive of Nactu, Fedsal, and COSATU which will then obviously take stock of what is happening. The key issue is that obviously we will continue with mass mobilization of whatever sort we deem necessary at a particular condition to be able to move forward, but we also remain open to negotiations, and all we are asking of business is that they must be able to put forward demands whose primary aim is not a caricature of labor's positions, but are capable of a settlement.

[Matham] Thank you very much, that was COSATU Secretary General Secretary Sam Shilowa.

Commission Gives 1st Arms Deals Report to Mandela

MB1606173395 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1625 GMT 16 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Johannesburg June 16 SAPA

— The first report of the Cameron Commission of Inquiry into AK-47 rifle deals which went awry in the Middle East was delivered to President Nelson Mandela's office at the Union Buildings in Pretoria on Friday [16 June].

Commission chairman Mr Justice Edwin Cameron said in a statement the report concerns the abortive deal in which Armscor [Armaments Corporation of South Africa] weapons were sold to Yemen. These deals were concluded in 1993 and 1994. The deals caused an international outcry in September 1994, when the Yemenese Government refused to accept a shipment from South Africa aboard the Arktis Pioneer, resulting the ship having to return to South Africa.

The commission completed its hearings on these deals in April after spending time in Switzerland to hear evidence from several overseas role players. Mr Justice Cameron said President Mandela will decide at a later date on the release of the report.

The commission reconvenes in Cape Town on Monday where it will hold public hearings on arms trade policy. Sinn Fein may give evidence before the commission on arms shipments from South Africa to Ulster loyalist forces in 1988, the organisation's President Gerry Adams said on Thursday. The weapons, including RPG-7 rocket launchers, hand grenades and AKM assault rifles, had caused the deaths of 200 people — most of them innocent bystanders, he told the parliamentary Foreign Affairs Committee. Some of the weapons had also been used in an assault on his family home, Mr Adams said.

NP Criticizes ANC Over Johannesburg Demarcation

MB1806170995 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Network in English 0500 GMT 18 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The National Party [NP] has condemned a call by the ANC in Gauteng for all parties not to delay a decision on the demarcation of the Greater Johannesburg. This follows ANC attempts last week to convince the Gauteng Legislature to support cabinet's demarcation plan.

The plan will divide the Greater Johannesburg into four municipal areas and not the current seven, as previously agreed to and recommended by the Demarcation Board.

MPL [Member of the Provincial Legislature] Darryl Swanepoel said in a statement ANC claims that the NP was trying to retain some lily-white areas was racist, in view of the abolished Group Areas Act. He said four metropolitan substructures would result in more expensive local government services, because service and delivery infrastructures had to be realigned.

Mr. Swanepoel added that millions of rands spent on negotiating and restructuring the seven municipal areas had been squandered because of Gauteng Housing MEC [Member of the Executive Council] Dan Mofokeng's agreement to demarcate only four areas.

National Health System Costs Outlined

MB1906085395 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0820 GMT 19 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cape Town June 19 SAPA — A national health system [NHS] would cost South Africa an extra R1.36 billion [rands], or R154 per person, in 1997, an official committee of inquiry said in a report released by Health Minister Nkosazana Zuma on Monday [19 June].

Some of the additional funds would have to come from the health budget and the rest of the money would have to be allocated by government after consultation with stakeholders, including trade unions and business, the report said. The committee's recommendations have not yet been accepted by Dr Zuma. The report said though there was an urgent need to find the additional money, care had to be taken to ensure government's policy of financial discipline policy was followed. Medical aid schemes would continue under the proposed scheme.

However the report recommended changes to the current medical aid structures to make the schemes more affordable and to ensure the elderly and the sick were not forced out of schemes by increasing costs. One of the main recommendations was for government to investigate a proposal to make membership of a basic hospital plan compulsory for all employed people. Under the proposed NHS, primary health care would be available to all South African residents "without any form of discrimination". It should build on, and strengthen, existing public sector health care services and should fit in with and strengthen the new district-based health care system.

It should be based on a comprehensive primary health care approach and should look after the needs of everyone in any health district. Ideally it would work with all levels of the health care system, including hospitals, and should encourage the co-operation of the public and the private sectors so that health care workers, expensive equipment and building were shared between the sectors. People who wanted to use private health services should be allowed to do so as long as they recognised they would have to pay extra for these services.

The NHS was necessary because of the historical racial division of health services, and because of the separate provision of preventative and promotive health care—even within the same building. People who had access to health services often could not afford to pay for medicine and care.

Portnet Announces Container Terminal Upgrades

MB1706170495 Johannesburg BEELD (BUSINESS BEELD supplement) in Afrikaans 15 Jun 95 p S4

[Figures as published]

[FBIS Translated Text] Portnet [Port Network] will spend 374 million rands over the next three years to upgrade its container terminals. This is part of a plan to get rid of backlogs at various ports nationwide. During the past few weeks, importers have been angered by delays caused by the backlogs and strikes.

This year, 49 million rands will be spent on Cape Town Harbor, and another 22 million rands will be spent next year. Most of the money will be used for the acquisition of new cranes. Another 32 million will be spent on the improvement of existing facilities and the replacement of equipment.

The expansions will include, among other things, the enlargement of the loading berths, which will take place next month. Work on the cranes will begin in August. Additional personnel will be trained and deployed by October.

Durban Harbor has been allocated 49 million this year for expansion and an additional 252 million over the next three years. Port Elizabeth will spend 20 million this year and another 5 million over the next three years.

Portnet will also introduce a new financial incentive scheme for shift workers, while training programs will be speeded up. Mike Fell, marketing manager of the container Division, says these steps will put Portnet in a position to handle the increase in container traffic.

Sweden To Help Train Police, Regional Forces

MB1706170395 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Network in English 0500 GMT 17 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Swedish police are to help train policemen in South Africa. This follows a visit to Sweden by National Police Commissioner George Fivaz.

A statement issued in Stockholm said a pledge had been received from Commissioner Fivaz to help develop connections in southern Africa to create an Afripol, an African equivalent to Interpol. The unit will have its headquarters in Harare, Zimbabwe.

Gen. Fivaz met (Bjorn Erikssen), head of Interpol and the Swedish police, during his visit.

South African Press Review for 18 Jun

MB1806184495

[FBIS Editorial Report]

BEELD

Traditional Leaders Join 'Gravy Train' — "It is not government's responsibility, as President Nelson Mandela claims, to pay the salaries of traditional leaders," argues a page-6 editorial in Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans on 15 June. "Nor is it the provinces' responsibility, as Mr. Mangosuthu Buthelezi claims. The concern of these two leaders is clearly to expand their party political support base." According to the editorial, "another gravy train is being created, which will have to be paid for by the taxpayer." For the traditional leaders to receive

the same treatment as members of Parliament "is wrong in principle, because these traditional leaders are not elected by, nor are they of benefit to, the taxpayer. They are only cultural assets to their own tribe, and to no one else."

SATURDAY STAR

Police Need 'Innovative Thinking' — "Ordinary South Africans from all walks of life are beginning to sing the same song about our appalling crime rate," begins a page-10 editorial in Johannesburg SATURDAY STAR in English on 17 June. The chief sign of this new will "is a shift in attitudes toward the police force." According to the editorial, the police "are beginning, encouragingly, to be perceived as they should be: the thin blue line of the cliche, there to guarantee order for law-abiders." The police should "step up the innovative thinking and implementation," such as anticrime drives, and drop "silly ideas like spending hundreds of millions of rands on new uniforms for the force." "Whatever money is available to the police should be used to beat the criminals."

South African Press Review for 19 Jun

MB1906101695

[FBIS Editorial Report]

THE STAR

Criticism of Mandela's Proposals for Traditional Chiefs - Kaizer Nyatsumba writes in his "One in Your Eye" column on page 10 of Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 19 June that President Mandela's primary motive for wanting to centralize the payment of traditional leaders has been to "break the Inkatha Freedom Party's [IFP] almost asphyxiating stranglehold on chiefs in KwaZulu/Natal." However, Nyatsumba finds Mandela's proposal "worrisome," saying: "What guarantee is there that the ANC might not later seek to manipulate the traditional leaders in the same manner the IFP did? Does he who pays the piper, after all, not also call the tune? No matter what Mandela and the ANC might say. that danger exists for the ANC is no bunch of angels." Nyatsumba also notes that Mandela's intention to give the traditional leaders the same perks as parliamentarians "smacks of a crude attempt by the president to bribe the chiefs." In conclusion, Mandela's proposal with regard to traditional chiefs is "manifestly unconstitutional and confirms yet again the ANC's deep-seated aversion to federalism. It may also betray a surprising lack of familiarity with some details of the Interim Constitution on the part of some in the ANC - apparently including Mandela's advisers — eager to whittle away at whatever minimal powers the provinces presently enjoy."

SOWETAN

Alternatives to Death Penalty — Johannesburg SOWE-TAN in English on 19 June in a page 10 editorial believes Justice Minister Dullah Omar will do the cause of justice a great deal of good "if he lives up to his weekend pledge to introduce full life sentences for some categories of criminals." While the abolition of the death sentence was "the civilised thing to do" it has "hugely dented the confidence of the public in the ability of the law to punish appropriately those guilty of crimes such as murder, rape and armed robbery." Therefore, SOWE-TAN believes sentencing people to life imprisonment instead of death "should mean that they literally spend the rest of their days behind bars."

BUSINESS DAY

Majority Rule — "So the Inkatha Freedom Party and the National Party [NP] believe a referendum should determine whether South Africa should maintain the death penalty?" begins a page 10 editorial in Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 19 June. These two parties' approach "displays a complete lack of understanding of the form of government these two minority parties supposedly want where other issues are concerned." BUSINESS DAY believes the "will of the majority" cannot decide all fundamental issues. This could lead to the "'tyranny of the majority, and inroads on individual rights'."

Angola

Government Offers UNITA Leader Vice Presidency

MB1706185495 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 17 Jun 95

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Angolan peace process has taken another step forward. It has been painfully slow since last November's peace accord between the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] government and UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] opposition. But President Dos Santos and Jonas Savimbi of UNITA have met; Mr. Savimbi has been talking more positively about reconciliation, and now the government has announced that it is offering Mr. Savimbi one of two vice presidencies in a new government of national unity. Our colleague Keith Somerville is in Luanda. Kadaria Ahmed asked him if Jonas Savimbi is likely to accept the offer.

[Begin recording] [Somerville] Well, since the Lusaka meeting, he has been increasingly willing to consider a political dialogue and has implied that he probably would accept such an offer. But that acceptance is going to be a long way down the road, I think. His military leaders are not happy with going into the political process too far. They fear that UNITA will give too much away and not get much in return. So they will probably act as a form of pressure on him to slow him down.

[Ahmed] It does look as if even if he accepts the offer, then there is a chance of some sort of internal problems within UNITA itself?

[Somerville] That is a possibility. What has been happening recently is that Dr. Savimbi has been appealing more to the civilian population of UNITA-held areas with, I think, the idea of building momentum for peace and then saying to the military leaders within UNITA: Look, we have to go with this; people are sick of war.

But of course the whole process, anyway, including this offer, is going to be a long-term one. The offer is pegged to demobilization of UNITA and government forces, and UN officials connected with the demobilization process have told me that you are looking at a time scale of three to five months before you even begin to get people in large numbers into the demobilization area. So, there is a lot of time for the political maneuvering to continue.

[Ahmed] This does seem to be something that is working. Does it appear as if the sides are a little bit more committed than previously?

[Somerville] I think it is more to the point that the politicians seem more committed, though the military on either sides may not be. But everyone is just worn down by war, that they really want a way out. The question is whether the military will finally see that they have nothing really to gain from the continuation of the war. The government, I think, would be unable to totally destroy UNITA, and UNITA would be unable to regain the gap ground that it has lost to the government over the past 18 months.

[Ahmed] Has UNITA reacted to this offer?

[Somerville] Not yet. All that we can say is that in past weeks, Dr. Savimbi has sounded far more cooperative and far more willing to view with the government than he ever has done before, and that must be at least the cause for some optimism. [end recording]

Constitutional Amendment Recommended

MB1706193295 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 17 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The Constitution of the Republic of Angola will be reviewed to include two vice presidents. The ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [MPLA] has recommended the creation of two vice presidencies in view of the current political situation. Jonas Savimbi, leader of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, will occupy one of the posts, and the other will be reserved for the MPLA, although no name has been put forward for the post. [passage omitted]

Savimbi Reacts to Position Offer

AB1806155595 Abidjan La Chaine Une Television Network in French 2000 GMT 17 Jun 95

[Interview with UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi by correspondent Levy Niamkey in Abidjan on 17 June recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] Dr. Jonas Malheiro Savimbi, leader of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA], has just toured a number of African countries. We met him this afternoon in a bid to generally establish the context and significance this tour.

[Begin recording] [Savimbi] First, UNITA has always accorded special importance to the position of African countries on the Angolan conflict. African countries have, in turn, shown keen interest in the Angolan conflict. Now that we see a ray of hope, and really believe that the conflict is going to end, I decided to brief the African heads of state and, at the same time, request their support and encouragement. This is why we undertook the tour. Here in Cote d'Ivoire we met

with President Bedie. We have also met with Benin's President Soglo, Bongo of Gabon, and the president of Cameroon. We assured all these heads of state of our readiness to:

- 1. Cooperate sincerely and this time round finally with the Luanda Government to end the conflict:
- 2. Work genuinely toward the reconciliation of all Angolans. The position of African countries is important in these matters.

[Niamey] Mr. President, we received an AFP dispatch this very morning at 10 o'clock. I shall quickly read its contents to you: After a lengthy debate, the ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola has approved the appointment of Jonas Savimbi, leader of the armed opposition UNITA movement as vice state president in line with the national reconciliation process. This is what official sources in Luanda disclosed today. Now, I want to know, since we are lucky to have you here with us: What is your spontaneous reaction to the content of this dispatch?

[Savimbi] I believe we knew that the ruling party's Central Committee was meeting to consider ways and means of integrating UNITA members in the running of the affairs of the state. In fact, we were consulted on the matter, but did not yet know what resolutions had been adopted. Since they began their Central Committee meeting only yesterday, we have not yet received any information on the decisions they have reached. We only hope that in this enormous endeavor, all sides will make some sacrifices and concessions, and whenever we are officially informed, our reaction will still be geared toward facilitating matters, because Angola can play a very important role not only in Central Africa but also in southern Africa, and even on the continental level. This means we are not going to quarrel with the government over posts. We are going to discuss peace and stabilization programs, and reconcile all Angolans. I believe that is the most important thing. When we are officially informed of this decision, we will also make our reaction known.

[Niamey] Mr. President, what role can African countries play in resolving the Angolan crisis today — I mean African countries taken first individually, and then collectively under the umbrella of the OAU? As you know, the OAU is due to open its meetings in a week. What role, therefore, can these African countries play within that framework?

[Savimbi] First, let me state that while we absolutely cherish the role that the international community is going to play through the blue helmets, and by the very presence of the United Nations, as far as we are concerned, the position of African countries should necessarily be preeminent. Angola belongs to the continent, and we want to be able to share our joys and sorrows with our African brothers. Also in the same vein, some African countries maintain excellent relations with the Luanda government, and this is why I believe that African countries could not only within the framework of the OAU as a body but also from the bilateral standpoint, encourage both the government and UNITA. In fact, I am inclined to define the role of African countries in relation to those two standpoints. They can contribute to resolving the Angolan conflict both through their bilateral relations, and as OAU members. Surely, we are going to show gratitude and appreciation, as we are already doing today, for the UN's eminently peaceful role; but Africa cannot be left out of the picture.

[Niamey] Mr. President, this is my last question. In our 2000 newscast yesterday, we received Mr. Alioune Blondin Beye, the UN secretary general's special envoy to Angola, who was sounding very optimistic about the outcome of the Angolan situation. Do you share that optimism?

[Savimbi] We perfectly share his optimism, and all that we can say is that if Angola's situation is to necessarily lead to a solution that is satisfactory to Angolans, Africa, and the international community, we must be firm. While we may be flexible in the methods used, we must remain firm on the principles because invariably, problems which initially look simple ultimately get complicated. However, if the mediators can be firm with the two parties — that is the government and UNITA — I believe we will be on the right track, and if the process were to collapse, I believe there will be more than just one party to blame. The government, UNITA, and the mediators would all share the blame. At any rate, as we are already setting out on the right note, we must be firm on the principles but flexible on the methods. [end recording]

Santos Views Ways To Speed Up Peace Process

MB1606204295 Luanda TPA Television Network in Portuguese 1930 GMT 16 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The meeting of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [MPLA] Central Committee today focused on the Lusaka Protocol's implementation. Speaking at the opening, MPLA President Jose Eduardo dos Santos said certain things can be done to speed up the pacification process:

[Begin Santos recording] These are political, military, constitutional, and electoral measures that can help speed up the peace process if crucial and daring decisions are made at the right time. Such measures include

the demilitarization of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA], the extension of state administration to every part of Angolan territory, and the formation of a government of national reconciliation and unity. These are points included in the Lusaka Protocol and there is nothing to be done other than to implement them.

We must also define the role and government position to be awarded to Dr. Jonas Savimbi, as well as the time and formula for holding the second round of presidential elections and the upcoming legislative elections.

The Political Bureau and I have thought in depth about these matters over the last few weeks, resulting in the draft political and legal principles that contain the proposed solutions to the problems I mentioned earlier. [passage omitted]

The UNITA leadership was widely consulted in connection with the principles I have just referred to. This must not be seen as an attempt to intensify bipolarization in the country's political life. Instead, all that is sought is to recognize and accept the historic facts that emerged from the September 1992 elections. Let it be noted that bipolarization per se is not a negative development, nor has it been the cause of the wars that have ravaged this country. Many countries of the world have bipolar political systems yet are powerful and enjoy great political stability. We must know how to manage our bipolarization so we can ensure political and social stability. All parties that have gained the necessary political legitimacy to intervene in, and decide on, state matters in the National Assembly will be able to contribute toward the national reconciliation process. However, the first word belongs to the majority party. [end recording]

First Group of Russian Blue Helmets Arrives

MB1706131295 Luanda TPA Television Network in Portuguese 1930 GMT 16 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The first group of Russian Blue Helmets arrived in Luanda today. They are part of a group of 160 Russian soldiers who will support the Angolan peace process. [passage omitted]

The first group of 78 soldiers brought three helicopters, and is led by General [name indistinct]. The other 82 soldiers in the Russian contingent are expected in Angola between 25 and 26 June. This group will bring four more helicopters.

UN Gives \$4 Million To Repatriate Refugees

MB1406205095 Luanda TPA Television Network in Portuguese 1930 GMT 14 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] A total of 300,000 Angolan refugees living mainly in Zambia, Zaire, Congo, and Namibia will be repatriated soon. The operation is scheduled to begin on 1 July. Today, the government and the United Nations signed an agreement whereby the United National High Commissioner for Refugees, UNHCR, will make available \$4 million for that operation. [passage omitted]

The process will cost the UNHCR \$44 million, according to UNHCR official Kamel Norjane. [passage omitted]

Social Reintegration Minister Albino Malungo also commented:

[Begin recording] [Malungo] This means that now we must create the right conditions so we can receive those who return on their own. All those refugees who return of their own free will will receive all our support in terms of food, farming tools, and other assistance to help them rejoin society. However, we will not organize a massive repatriation this year.

[Unidentified correspondent] I would like to know: How many Angolan refugees are there and where are they staying?

[Malungo] As I said only recently, most of them are in Zaire. There are some 320,000 Angolans there. There are some 150,000 in Zambia, about 50,000 in Namibia, and so on. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Swaziland

Minister Denies Supplying Weapons to UNITA

MB1606185995 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 16 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Swaziland has denied that it is supplying weapons to the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA]. Foreign Minister Solomon Dlamini said his country has always advocated peaceful dialogue to end the conflict in Angola. The Swazi foreign minister was reacting to allegations circulated by the national press about assistance to UNITA.

Cote d'Ivoire

Calm Returns to Border; Refugees Banned

AB1606125795 Abidjan Radio Cote d'Ivoire Chaine Nationale-Une Network in French 1900 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Calm has returned to the Ivorian-Liberian border following an intervention by the Ivorian Army. From now on, the Tai and Guiglo regions will no longer take in Liberian refugees. This is a decision reached by the Ivorian Government in order to put an end to the frequent violations of Ivorian territory by the Liberian factions. These violations are often perpetrated with the complicity of the Ivorians themselves. Here is the statement made by Defense Minister Leon Konan Koffi. It was recorded by Jean-Pierre Mea, our special correspondent in the region:

[Begin Koffi recording] We are asking for the assistance of the men, women, and children remaining in the villages, in Tai. [applause] However, I must say right away that this is not enough. You are not all women. You are men, and you acted in complicity with the rebels to kill our men, when you could have helped us; first, by informing us, and second, by organizing yourselves. You did not do so. [applause] Today, you still have among you rebels and refugees; and it is the refugees who revealed the Gendarmerie, customs, and Cote d'Ivoire National Armed Forces posts. You people are just here, and you do not inform us about anything. It is a pity and unfortunate for us to take in people as refugees and for them to kill our people. It is a pity that we protect you, but you do not inform us so that we can obtain the necessary facts to enable us to protect you better and protect our country. We are not going to talk to you forever. We came to this village several times: we talked to you; our soldiers, gendarmes, and customs officers are present, but you do not make any effort to help us to protect you. If you continue, we will withdraw our men, and you will be left on your own, and the rebels will come and kill you. Your inability to provide us with information is irresponsible. The rebels come and you give them accommodation. There are refugees who are accomplices of the rebels.

Henceforth.... [pauses] and you even keep arms in your homes. Henceforth, I repeat, no rebels and no refugees will be allowed in this village [applause, cheers], they should just remain in their country. [applause, cheers] It is not enough for you to clap and cheer. Listen, it is not enough for you to applaud, you have to organize yourselves to ensure that all the non-Ivorians who have left or who are preparing to leave — if they do — stay in their country and we stay in ours. I am not asking you to applaud, but rather to organize yourselves,

right from this evening, to help the gendarmes, soldiers, and customs officials — three of whom were killed, including one who was sick but whose room the rebels entered anyway and killed. What did you do about it? Could you not organize yourselves against those kids who came instead of keeping the arms they seized from us? Instead of keeping the arms that were brought in from Liberia, you could have handed them over to us so that we could help you flush out those bad and delinquent people who came to provoke, plunder, steal from, and kill you. Therefore, if you do not organize yourselves to help our men, we will abandon you, and that is that! [end recording]

[Abidjan Radio Cote d'Ivoire Chaine Nationale-Une Network in French at 0700 GMT on 16 June in a similar report adds: "We must add that Tai Subprefect Dominique Kacou, who was declared missing, was found safe and sound yesterday."]

Opposition Front Demands Minister's Resignation AB1606172095 Abidjan LE JOUR in French 16 Jun 95 p 4

[Article by Djeny Kobina: "Ouassenan Kone Must Resign"]

[FBIS Translated Text] On his return from Europe recently, the president of the Republic expressed the hope that "peaceful democracy" would emerge in our country. We were waiting to see what this beautiful expression conceals. We have now got the picture, after what happened yesterday in the office of his security minister, Gaston Ouassenan Kone.

Mr. Bedie's government and party have a very strange conception of "peaceful democracy." In reality, what happened yesterday was foreseeable. Indeed, since the organization of the march by the Democratic Party of Ivory Coast [PDCI], the hawks and other warmongers of this party have been making hysterical and antagonistic statements and committing provocative acts. In this atmosphere of outbidding one another, Mr. Ouassenan, as a good soldier, went to the front of the line, threatening Cote d'Ivoire with a military coup d'etat in the case of a PDCI defeat in the upcoming elections. cracking down on student demonstrations with untold brutality, and manhandling the dispersed participants of a peaceful march organized by the "Dignity" Trade Union, after detaining the secretary general of this trade union federation in scandalous conditions. The obvious aim of this policy of repression is to create in our country a psychosis of fear on the eve of the scheduled march of the Republican Front, and on the eve of the upcoming elections. The revolting mistreatment inflicted on Mr. Aboudrahamane Sangare follows this

same logic. Mr. Ouassenan knows — and if he does not know, we are informing him — that in a democracy, no one has the right to take the law into his own hands. He was free to prosecute Mr. Sangare if he felt offended by the BOL KOTCH article.

The Rally of Republicans [RDR], which fully adheres to republican principles, strongly protests what constitutes an undescribable human rights violation, and demands the immediate resignation of Mr. Ouassenan from the government. Cote d'Ivoire does not need this praetorian from a different age. Moreover, the RDR warns Mr. Bedie's government against unacceptable shifts toward totalitarianism, and urgently invites it to take the only necessary measure today: The setting up of a National Electoral Commission to prepare the next elections. The emergence of a true "peaceful democracy" in our country will come at this price.

Prime Minister Comments on Border Clashes

LD1606205795 Paris Radio France International in French 1830 GMT 16 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] In Cote d'Ivoire, where two rival Liberian factions clashed last Wednesday, it is estimated that 20 people died — 10 Liberians and 10 Ivorians. [passage omitted] Our reporter Sophie Marceau spoke to Ivorian Prime Minister Daniel Kablan Duncan, who is currently in Paris.

[Begin Duncan recording] The Liberian conflict has lasted more than five years. It is an important issue for us in Cote d'Ivoire, since it is a neighboring country with whom we have fraternal ties. Cote d'Ivoire is working hard on this question; as you know, there have been a number of meetings in Yamoussoukro, and others in Geneva. President Henri Konan-Bedie took part in the Abuja meeting, and has met Liberian officials on several occasions. What we want is for peace to return, because a return to peace is in our interest.

We have 350,000 Liberian refugees on our territory, and this costs us money. So this question must be settled, and I think we are all working toward making others — the major world powers, as well as our regional African partners — aware of the situation, so that we can get everyone to work toward an early solution. It is true that there have been problems, that sometimes there are incursions into our territory that cause problems. Therefore, we are obliged to keep an armed presence on our border in order to prevent such difficulties. That is a financial burden — there is a human price as well. It is in everyone's interest for peace to return to Liberia. [end recording]

Government Issues Statement

AB1706155595 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 17 Jun 95 p 14

[Government Communique issued in Abidjan, 16 June]

[FBIS Translated Text] The situation prevailing along the Ivorian-Liberian border recently led to the death of 32 people, including 10 Ivorians. This cruel disappearance of our fellow countrymen in a war in which our country is not participating is of concern to every Ivorian.

Although he is the first person affected by this war, the head of state, Henri Konan Bedie, has made it a point to express his profound sympathy to all Ivorians, particularly to the bereaved families.

On this sorrowful occasion, he appeals to everyone to remain calm, and to refrain from carrying out acts of reprisal against Liberian citizens living in our country.

Cote d'Ivoire is a hospitable country which has always remained calm and respected under such circumstances. We must try to maintain this reputation which has won world respect for our country.

First and foremost, Liberians are our brothers. It is for this reason that we have received those who have fled from the atrocities of the war to seek refuge in our country with open arms. The tragic incidents that have occurred over the past few days at the Ivorian-Liberian border due to no fault of our poor guests, who also regret them as much as we do, must not lead us into committing acts that might increase their pain, which we have so far shared with them.

As soon as he was informed about the situation, the head of state dispatched to the scene the minister of defense, the chief of general staff, and the superior officer of the national Gendarmerie whose reports on the mission will enable him to take the necessary measures. He, therefore, appeals to the understanding and tolerance of each and everyone.

Mass Expulsion of Liberian Refugees Reported

AB1806185395 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 18 Jun 95

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The official death toll following last week's border incursions by the Liberian Peace Council, LPC, into the Ivory Coast has now been put officially at over 30. It could be much higher, and as they threatened to do, the Ivorian authorities have started a mass expulsion of Liberian refugees from the area. Our

correspondent, Jonathan Peleyle, is in the Ivorian border town of Danane, and he faxed us this report:

Ivorian security forces in the border town of Tai have begun to forcibly repatriate Liberian refugees from the area. Truckloads of Liberians are being driven to the border each day and made to cross over, leaving their personal belongings behind. Several hundreds of them have already been forced in LPC-controlled areas in southeast Liberia. Some refugees have escaped the repatriation exercise, and are fleeing to towns and villages within Ivory Coast. A large number of them are pouring into the town of Danane.

Meanwhile, details are now emerging about last week's cross-border attacks by Liberian fighters which left scores of people dead, including a number of Ivorian security personnel. Eyewitnesses returning to Danane today told me that the attack started when two LPC generals were arrested after crossing into Tai with a large group of bodyguards. It is reported that after the generals were detained, the bodyguards returned to Liberia where they amassed a large force of LPC fighters. The fighters then crossed back into Ivory Coast firing into the air. They are reported to have succeeded in securing the release of the generals but that in the process, fighting broke out with Ivorian security officials. The town of Tai is reported to be calm today.

Ghana

Government Asks Nigeria To Host ECOWAS Summit

AB1506172895 Accra Ghana Broadcasting Corporation Radio Network in English 1300 GMT 15 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Ghana has requested Nigeria to host this year's summit of ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States], scheduled for next month in Abuja. A statement issued in Accra today and signed by the minister of information, Mr. Kofi Totobi-Quakyi, said, in accordance with convention, Ghana as current chairman of ECOWAS should have played host to the summit. It explained that, owing to lack of requisite facilities. Ghana will be unable to host the summit. And as is the practice whenever the incumbent chairman is unable to host the summit meeting, Ghana has requested Nigeria to proceed with arrangements for the conference to be held at the ECOWAS headquarters, in Abuja. The statement said, even though the facilities at the Accra International Conference Center would have been adequate for the summit, Ghana would have been unable to provide the accomodation requiments for the 17 heads [figure as heard] heads of state of ECOWAS. The existing facilities at the State House and Peduase Lodge are inadequate for the summit. Besides,

the existing hotels do not have facilities that measure up to the acceptable standards of presidential suites. The statement said hosting the ECOWAS summit would, therefore, have meant committing resources to provide the appropriate facilities, including accommodation for the visiting dignitaries. It said government is of the view, however, that the projected expenditures, which run into millions of dollars, could not be afforded in the present circumstance. Indeed, in recent times, it has been the policy of government to cut down on expenditures on international conferences, because the economy cannot afford it at this time. The statement noted that it is of deep significance that Ghana is increasingly being chosen as the venue for international conferences, seminars, and workshops. In this regard, it is regrettable that, given the country's rising stature in the international community, Ghana will be unable to play host to such an important event as the ECOWAS summit. The statement said it is the cherished wish of heads of state of ECOWAS that Ghana would host the summit. Government is, however, of the view that the decision was unavoidable, given the present economic difficulties. The state added that, whenever circumstances permit, the government hopes to put in place a program to develop the country's capacity to host major summits of ECOWAS, OAU, and others in the future.

Nigerian Minister Delivers Abacha Message

AB1706191095 Accra Ghana Broadcasting Corporation Radio Network in English 1800 GMT 17 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Nigerian foreign minister, Chief Tom Ikimi, has delivered a message from the Nigerian leader General Sani Abacha to the chairman of ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States], President Rawlings, at the Castle, Osu. The contents of the message were not disclosed. Chief Ikimi however told newsmen at the Kotoka International Airport before departure, that Nigeria would consider hosting the forthcoming ECOWAS summit if a formal notice is sent to the government. Ghana has asked Nigeria to host the summit because of economic constraints facing her.

On Nigeria's political crisis, Chief Ikimi said as far as the Abacha administration is concerned, the democratic arrangement to return the country to constitutional rule is on course. He said as soon as the report is submitted to the government on the arrangement by the Constitutional Conference, the government would take a decision on a timetable.

Reportage on Inter-Muslim Clash in Wenchi

1 Dead, 4 Injured

AB1606213895 Paris AFP in English 1047 GMT 16 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Accra, June 16 (AFP) — One man has been killed and four injured in renewed inter-lMoslem violence in the provincial Ghanaian town of Wenchi, a senior police source in the area said Friday [16 June].

A man named as Ali Sule was killed on Wednesday in a new outburst of violence between two Moslem groups in Wenchi, 310 kilometres (190 miles) northwest of Accra.

According to a police source in neighbouring Sunyani, 50 kilometres (35 miles) to the southwest, the four injured included two police officers, while property valued at 10 million cedis (around 9,500 dollars) was destroyed.

A police rifle and several rounds of ammunition were seized and are still missing.

The trouble began when some 50 extra police were drafted in to try to arrest a group of traditionalist Moslems in connection with a wave of violence earlier this year against the rival Al-Suna reformist sect.

The traditionalists fired on the police and then again attacked members of the rival sect, during which the man was shot dead, the police source said. Four traditionalists have been arrested.

The situation was Friday reported to be still tense in the town, with traditionalists blocking some roads and threatening further violence if those arrested are not released.

A first wave of violence between the two groups broke out in the town on February 7, leaving several people injured. The Al-Suna reformists, generally younger than their rivals, are seen by the traditionalists as unholy.

Looting Reported; Roads Blocked

AB1706182895 Accra DAILY GRAPHIC in English 16 Jun 95 pp 1, 9

[FBIS Transcribed Text] One person died from gunshots during a rampage by orthodox Muslims at Wenchi in the Brong Ahafo Region on Wednesday, [14 June]. He is Ali Sule. Four others, including two policemen were also injured while properties worth several millions of cedis were destroyed.

A rifle from a policeman and two rounds of ammunition were seized and are yet to be retrieved. The situation has been tense at Wenchi, the disrict capital, and fear has gripped the township.

The rampaging Muslims have barricaded roads in the town, threatening that if their colleagues are not released there will be more violence. The rampage began when policemen attempted to arrest the perpetrators of attack on members of Al-Suna Sect by some members of the orthodox Muslims last January.

During the attack, the orthodox Muslims who see the Al-Suna reformists as unholy, looted and destroyed properties, including five newly constructed houses.

Police sources said they decided to arrest the perpetrators on Wednesday so 47 policemen from Sunyani, Berekum and Techiman moved into action at dawn.

However, they met resistance from the orthodox Muslims who fired gunshots. It was when the orthodox Muslims charged on the Al-Suna that Sule was shot.

Four of the orthodox Muslims have been arrested but their names are being withheld. In telephone conversation with one Dr Koko, Medical Superintendent of the Wenchi Methodist Hospital, he said the civilians who were injured are Alhaji Amid and Imorama Seidu of the Al-Suna. The policemen who were treated and discharged are Assistant Superintendent of Police A.K. Dartey, Wenchi Divisional Crime Officer, and Corporal Owusu Ansah of the Berekum Police Station.

Guinea

Election Results for Constituencies Received

AB1906091595 Conakry Radiodiffusion Nationale de la Republique de Guinee in French 0645 GMT 19 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] That is it! The results of the legislative elections in the 38 Guinean electoral constituencies have now reached the centralization commission, at the Palais du Peuple, here in Conakry. The recording of votes obtained by the contesting parties is continuing as well as the counterchecking of election reports and votes counted in the polling stations. [passage omitted]

Municipal Elections Slated For 29 Jun

AB1906112995 Conakry Radiodiffusion Nationale de la Republique de Guinee in French 0645 GMT 19 Jun 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Municipal elections will be held on 29 June. The election campaign, which will last 15 days, has already begun. The electorate will be voting for candidates presented by the contesting parties as well as for independent candidates in these municipal elections.

Liberia

Councilman Asks Carter Center for Assistance AB1406150095 Monrovia Radio ELBC in English 0900 GMT 14 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] State Councilman Dexter Tahyor is calling on the Carter Center in Monrovia to play a neutral but positive role in helping to find a lasting solution to the Liberian civil crisis. He observed that most Liberians are skeptical about the role of former U.S. President Jimmy Carter in the Liberian peace process. According to Councilman Tahyor, Mr. Carter, as one of the facilitators, comes in only when NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] leader Charles Taylor is in trouble but does nothing to stop the intransigence of the NPFL to bring relief to Liberians.

State Councilman Tahyor made the call Monday [12 June] when the newly appointed director of the Carter Center in Monrovia, Mr. (?Joe Landlord), called on him at the Executive Mansion. He said the Carter Center as a democratic institution can help foster peace and reconciliation among Liberians by advocating basic democratic ideals such as fair play, equal opportunity, dignity, and self-respect for all Liberians, irrespective of status and ethnic background.

Mr. (Landlord), who had served in Liberia for four years in various capacities prior to his appointment, said he was happy to be back in the country and noted that his visit was intended to familiarize himself with members of the State Council. He pledged his organization's cooperation in helping to resolve the Liberian crisis.

Liberians Said 'Molested' in Cote d'Ivoire AB1706160295 Monrovia Radio ELBC in English 1400 GMT 17 Jun 95

[Poor reception precludes fuller processing]

[FBIS Summary] "Reports reaching ELBC News say Liberians living in the Ivorian capital, Abidjan, are being molested by Ivorian citizens in reaction to the recent cross-border attack from Liberian territory." Our reporter suggests that this development is the result of "the death of the Ivorian nationals" in the recent attack. "Unconfirmed reports say at least two Liberians have died from injuries received from beating while others have sought refuge at the police station in Abidjan." The head of the Liberians is also said to have been beaten.

It is "said that fighting between two Liberian warring factions, believed to be the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia], and LPC [Liberian Peace Council], spilled over the border, leaving some Ivorian soldiers and civilians dead."

"Meanwhile, the Liberian Peace Council, LPC, has clarified that its military activities are restricted within Liberia, and (?denies ever pursuing) its political ends into the Ivory Coast. The Ivorian authorities recently accused the LPC of cross-border attacks in which some Ivorians were reported to have (?died). The LPC has, meanwhile, deplored the killing of the Ivorians, and reaffirmed its respect for the territorial integrity of the Ivory Coast."

Nigeria

Reportage on Threats Against Non-Muslims

Fundamentalists Circulate Pamphlets

AB1606164095 Paris AFP in English 1528 GMT 16 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Lagos, June 16 (AFP) — Pamphlets circulating in the northern Nigerian state capital of Kano call on non-Moslems to flee the area before they are engulfed in "calamity", according to reliable witnesses interviewed Friday [16 June] by AFP.

The pamphlet, which has been seen by two newspapers, the government-owned DAILY TIMES and the independent A.M NEWS, said: "This is to inform non-indigenes that they should pack away from Kano metropolis in their own interest before the arrival of Islamic troops."

Signed by the Jammatu Tajdidi Islamya, a hitherto unknown fundamentalist organisation in the region, which has already seen serious religious violence, the pamphlet adds: "They should know that no authority can prevent them from the impending calamity."

Most of the Hausa people of the north are Moslems. Observers said those targetted in the tract were clearly non-Moslems since Nigeria's religious tensions in general reflect ethnic divides. The majority of Ibos, another of the country's three largest ethnic groups, are Christians.

The tension spawned by the threats forced the State Police Chief Hassin Abdullahi into a series of statements on television and radio stations.

Abdullahi told the population to ignore the pamphlets and assured all measures were being taken to ensure security.

Last month violent clashes between traders from the majority Hausa community and Ibos left at least 30 people dead in Kano, where authorities in:posed a curfew in a bid to restore calm.

Four Moslems in their thirties who appeared before an official inquiry into the disturbances ordered by Kano state military administrator, Colonel Mohammed Wase, later claimed responsibility for the murder last December of Gideon Akaluka.

Akaluka, an Ibo Christian, was accused by fundamentalists of outrgages against Islam and decapitated. His head was paraded on a stake through Kano. The killing has sparked fears in the Nigerian Christian community and the Ibos and the Yorubas, who constitute the third of Nigeria's three largest indigenous ethnic populations.

Non-Muslims Reportedly Leave Kano

AB1806173395 Paris AFP in English 1723 GMT 18 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Lagos, 18 Jun (AFP) — Nigerian Christians have petitioned the Federal Military Government and Kano State Government over a pamphlet circulating in the state asking non-Muslims to flee or be engulfed in a "calamity", a source said Sunday [18 June].

The petition by the Christian Association of Nigeria alleged that the Muslim group that issued the pamphlets has already started to expel Christians from their homes and shops, said the source, who lives in the Muslim-dominated city of Kano. "Many Christians have been ejected from their homes and shops around Goron-Dutse and Kabuga areas (of Kano city), while a pastor of a church residing at Kabuga has been killed in cold blood by the same (Islamic) group," the [source] says.

The tracts were signed by Jammatu Tajdidi Islamya, a previously unknown fundamentalist organization in the region, which has [been] wracked by religious violence. Although not yet in large numbers, there is already a visible movement of non-Muslims out of Kano as a result of the scare created by the tract, said the source, contacted from here by telephone. Others are taking refuge in church premises, police and military barracks awaiting government assurances on their safety, the source added.

Kano, in northern Nigeria, is the biggest commercial city in Nigeria after Lagos. The military administrator of Kano State, Colonel Mohammed Wase, held a meeting Saturday with Islamic and community leaders in Kano over the threat by the Islamic sect.

Further on Warnings to Non-Muslims

AB1906112095 London BBC World Service in English 0615 GMT 19 Jun 95

[From the "Network Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Christians in Kano in northern Nigeria are turning to the government for protection after threatening letters warned that they should leave the town or face calamity. The Christian Association of Nigeria said that the Muslim group that issued the pamphlet had already started to expel people from their homes and shops. It seems the group is virtually unknown and local Muslim community leaders say that the threats are un-Islamic. Obala Ibrahim is in Kano. He's been investigating.

[Begin recording] [Ibrahim] The latest of warnings, as the wording says, reads in part, and I quote, This is to inform the non-Muslims that they should urgently pack away from Kano metropolitan peacefully in their own interest before the arrival of the Muslim troops. Furthermore, they should know that no authority can prevent or protect them from the calamity they may find themselves. [no reference to closing quotation as heard].

According to them, Kano is an Islamic state but non-Muslims are completely invading and dominating commercial activities in the city and its environment. A Christian lady, who wants to remain anonymous, said like any other Christian residing in the metropolitan she feels threatened.

[Unidentified speaker] It's now a matter of life and death. In the last crisis it was just a squabble — from the information we received — between two people, but then lives were lost, property worth....[pauses] God knows how much was lost. And its appears as if at the slightest provocation, Christians are being killed, their churches are burned. It is even expressed here that the authority cannot prevent these people who call themselves The Muslim Brothers.

[Ibrahim] But it is not every Muslim in the city that is in support of the situation. In fact, majority of the people I have spoken to were vehement about their distress for the situation. According to a one-time leader of the Izala Islamic Sect in Kano, Alhaji Abdulkarim Dayeho, the government is purely to blame.

[Dayeho] The government itself, who is supposed to be responsible for the protection of the lives, health, and properties of its citizenry, seems to tend to do otherwise. They make diversionary tactics in order for these to continue looting the market while the masses are fighting them.

[Ibrahim] In an effort to reassure the non-Muslims in the state that their lives and properties will be protected, the government has summoned all the religious and community leaders, where it gave a stern warning that it will not condone any threat or attempt to destabilize the peaceful atmosphere in the state. The state administrator, Colonel Abdullahi Mohamed Wase, said Kano belonged to all regardless of their religion, life, or culture. The fact that this is not the first time or the second time nonindigenes are threatened in Kano, it will take more than words from the government to convince the nonindigenes that Kano is as safe as it's claimed to be. [end recording]

Government Confirms Arrest of General Obasanjo

AB1606195795 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 16 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Speculation has been rife in Nigeria about the fate of former head of state, General Obasanjo. He has been implicated in an alleged coup plot earlier this year, and he has been under house arrest, but was taken away on Tuesday [13 June]. Nobody knew where he was, and the prediction was that Gen. Obasanjo would soon be put on trial. Now the government admits they got him. From Lagos, Sola Odunfa reports:

[Odunfa] This is the third day since Gen. Obasanjo was taken away from his farmhouse in Otta on the outskirts of Lagos, where he had been under guard for the past two months. Defense Headquarters have confirmed his movement, but will not disclose where he is now being kept. This had fueled public speculations that the military authorities have concluded plans to put the one time head of state on trial over the alleged coup plot, aborted in March. Eighteen military officers and five civilians are already on trial before a special military tribunal in Lagos over the plot. Gen. Obasanjo was taken from the farm two weeks ago, and returned there on the same day after interrogation by the coup investigators. Reports say that he was again taken away early on Wednesday morning [14 June] by a military team led by the same Army colonel who went for him on the first occasion — but this time he had not been returned to the farm. Defense Spokesman Brigadier General Fred Chijuka would not shed any light on this latest development. He said that they had told Gen. Obasanjo's son, who called to make inquiries, that he should wait till Monday to know whether the situation was serious. He said that he did not know where or why the security authorities moved the general.

The spokesman told journalists that he was sure that the general had not been on trial secretly. He said that he would press for permission for journalists to be at the opening session if and whenever the general was to be tried. Gen. Obasanjo had consistently denied his involvement in any coup plot.

U.S. Urged To Think Before Imposing Sanctions AB1406213095 Lagos Voice of Nigeria in English 1030 GMT 14 Jun 95

[Commentary by Mohamed Okorijo]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Those who prayed and expected Armageddon on 12 June must now be badly disappointed. June 12 came and went like every ordinary day in Nigeria except that, expectedly, there was the initial hesitation, and inertia in the nation's business life. Reports from across the country show that it was calm on this day that has become significant in the political history of Africa's most populous nation.

Agreed it was a day that Nigerians voted in a mood they had never done before. They voted for a candidate who seemed to them then as the best embodiment of democracy but the election was changed right from the beginning. The nominations did not go down well with most people but they had to give in so as not to be seen as being antidemocracy. The courts and the authorities at that time did not think that the election had merit, and there were some Nigerians who came out openly to vow that the result of the election would be accepted over their dead bodies. In the midst of all that, the election was annulled.

There is no doubt that it was a deadly blow on the Nigerian psyche because the election was a watershed in Nigeria's checkered political development, but there is also no doubt that the annulment severed a lot of people, and brought about new alignments that are equally powerful and workable for the new Nigeria of our dreams.

The calmness that prevailed in the country on Monday, 12 June is a testimony of this new feeling. Nigerians put a message across to the international community that they had had enough of violence, and that they now want to face the future without rancor and hatred. Western nations, who make believe that they want democracy in Nigeria, should read the message in this new attitude between the lines, and leave us alone to grope until we find the way ourselves. It would become a familiar course for us because it would have been well-trodden, and the sign-posts, well-stationed.

Nigerians have now refused to resort to violence in spite of the subtle incitement by Western nations through the sponsorship of disgruntled Nigerian groups. This is a

clear message that we have had enough of foreign attempts to cause confusion, and dismemberment of Nigeria which is a power equation for Africa in contemporary world politics. With failure in this regard staring them in the face, Western nations have resorted to rough tactics and threats.

America is reported to have threatened that it will freeze Nigerian assets as a way of forcing it into democracy. Washington should think twice before doing such a thing. There are numerous American interests in Nigeria that will suffer the same fate, and you can rest assured that Nigeria will retaliate instantly. Nigeria did it before, and will do it with greater vehemence this time around. Washington should find out about all that, and learn quickly that those who live in glass houses should not throw stones.

Nigeria's minister of information and culture, Dr. Walter Ofanogoro, has issued a strong warning to America on this score. He spoke the minds of all Nigerians except those who are currently refugees on American soil, and have preferred Uncle Tom's [as heard] largesse to the unity of their fatherland. It is apparent, as the minister stated, that Nigeria has no quarrel with the international community over the issue of 12 June. June 12 is an internal affair of Nigeria. If Western nations have lost sight of this, Nigerians have, by their quiet disposition toward 12 June, told them clearly that the future of their country is now their main concern.

Later this month, the draft Constitution will be submitted to the head of state. Thereafter, the next stage of our democratization process will be announced, and the country will move forward. So, who says we are not democratizing? Certainly, we are, but only not doing it in the way Americans want, and this because we no longer want a political graft that cannot blend with our cultural background. We want a solid foundation that can make our future generations stand up to any challenge, and be capable of sustaining every [words indistinct] that world evolution portends.

Sierra Leone

Rebels Continue Attack on Bo; Troops Intervene

AB1506114495 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 14 Jun 95

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The rebel RUF [Revolutionary United Front] in Sierra Leone has been keeping up its fierce attacks on the Bo Region in the south of the country. Even as local people were taking in reports of an attack on Tikonko, just a few miles from Bo, there was news of another raid, this time at Gerihun on

the main highway between Bo and Kenema. From Bo, Alhassan Sylla reports:

[Begin Sylla recording] First reports on the grounds last evening were that a number of displaced persons living in a refugee camp in the town had been killed along with some government soldiers and the camp itself burnt to ashes by the rebels. Some other refugees were said to have got drowned in the nearby Bebeye River as they tried to make good their escape, while others were killed when they dashed across to the military headquarters of the town which was reported to be hit.

However, further destruction to life and property was halted by the appearance on the scene of a military escort team sending a convoy of vehicles from Kenema to Bo. The escort is said to have engaged the rebels, killing what a civilian eyewitness described as a large but unspecified number. According to this eyewitness, at least one person in the convoy was killed while two others sustained bullet wounds. Following the attack on Gerihunn, the military high command [words indistinct] to the people of Bo through the FM radio station here urging citizens to relive the 27 December 1994 experience and to be prepared to defend their motherland. December 27th 1994 was the red-letter day in which civilians in Bo unarmed, repelled the RUF rebels attack on this township, killing a good number of them.

Within an hour of last evening's broadcast, dozens of checkpoints and roadblocks had sprung up in every nook and cranny of the town manned by determined and sometimes bloody-eyed youths. This was followed by a mammoth meeting called in Bo this morning at which 35,000 youths raised clenched fists into the air in agreement to defend this land and chanted war songs. [end recording]

Investigation Begins Into Port Loko Attack

AB1506224895 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 15 Jun 95

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Investigations have been going in Sierra Leone into last week's RUF [Revolutionary United Front] rebel attack on Port Loko, 80 miles north of Freetown. A number of civilians and rebels were killed in the onslaught, and many people fled the town. But it seems that there are questions about the Army's role in the defense of Port Loko, and a local military commander is having to answer them, as Victor Sylver reports in this telex from Freetown:

The former commanding officer of the military unit based in Port Loko, Captain Toluba, is now with the

military police, helping to unravel just what went wrong on that fateful night. According to sources close to the military, Capt. Toluba and his second in command, a certain Lieutenant Conteh, have questions to answer, following allegations now doing the rounds. Those who managed to escape the brutal attacks on civilians have been talking of men, partly dressed in military uniform, being in the forefront of attacks on various sections of Port Loko.

Though no one has yet come out with a clear and precise statement as to what they actually saw, strong rumors seem to suggest there could have been a large degree of criminal negligence on the part of the security personnel supposedly defending the town. One man told me yesterday that he could still not fathom why Capt. Toluba apparently disappeared just before the attack and, even more baffling, why his second in command could also not be seen. The attack, which left at least 35 houses destroyed and a number of civilians dead [words indistinct], has been exercising the minds of many here, who have thought that a town like Port Loko should have been well-defended.

This is not the first time that the military has instituted such an investigation, and many recall that after the attack on Panguma last year, in which a Dutch doctor and his family and an Irish priest lost their lives, an inquiry was held. I understand it recommended that the head of military in the area should be made to answer for gross negligence, for abandoning his area of

responsibility when the rebels struck. Many here want an open investigation into the allegations now being made by civilian survivors from the attack on Port Loko.

Nineteen Reported Killed in Rebel Attacks

AB1806163795 Paris AFP in English 1430 GMT 18 Jun 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Freetown, 18 Jun (AFP) — A total of 19 people were killed in two separate rebel attacks in central and southern Sierra Leone, sources said Sunday [18 June]. In the first attack on Saturday, six civilians and a soldier died after an ambush by rebels from the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) in the village of Masesay, some 100 kilometres (60 miles) north of here, according to a witness who managed to escape. He said they launched grenades at a convoy of traders travelling to Freetown, setting alight 18 vehicles.

In the other attack on the same day, 12 rebels were killed by villagers in Baomaba, about 260 kilometres (160 miles) east of the capital, after they realised the rebels were armed with imitation weapons, national radio reported. The villagers initially fled when the rebels arrived, but then returned to pursue them with spears and machetes.

Sierra Leone's civil war has been raging since 1991 when the RUF launched a fight to restore democracy to the country. Over 10,000 people have perished in the fighting.

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